

KEY DATA

NO ARTICLE 4 DEADLINE:

State not party to the CCM

CMR CONTAMINATION:

70,687km²

Light
(partial national authority estimate)

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS

Release of cluster munition-contaminated area	Release in 2025 (m ²)	Release in 2024 (m ²)
Clearance	0	0
Technical Survey	0	0
Non-Technical Survey	0	0
Destruction of submunitions during clearance, survey, and spot tasks	2025	2024
Submunitions destroyed	0	0

MAIN CMR SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OPERATORS IN 2025

- CAFA Development Organisation (CAFA)
- Friends of Peace and Development Organisation (FPDO)
- Ministry of Defence (MoD)
- Danish Refugee Council (DRC)
- JASMAR Human Security Organisation (JASMAR)
- National Units for Mine Action and Development (NUMAD)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Extensive use of explosive weapons has been reported since the outbreak of the ongoing armed conflict between the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) on 15 April 2023, adding new unexploded ordnance (UXO) to existing contamination. As at April 2026, there were no indications that the conflict had included new use of cluster munitions. There was a focus in 2025 on clearance of landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) in SAF-controlled areas, including in Khartoum, but no survey or clearance of cluster munition remnants (CMR) was conducted for a third consecutive year. Despite increased donor interest in mine action in Sudan in 2025, the overall scale of need continues to far exceed capacity.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Sudan should accede to the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) as a matter of priority.
- Sudan should submit an annual voluntary Article 7 report to the CCM disaggregating submunitions from other UXO and reporting according to International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) land release terminology.
- Sudan should comply with its obligations under international human rights law to clear CMR on territory under its jurisdiction or control as soon as possible.
- Sudan should elaborate a timeline and work plan for addressing CMR and other UXO as soon as reasonably possible and when security conditions allow, and develop a clear prioritisation framework to support the plan.
- Sudan should develop a resource mobilisation strategy increasing its international advocacy to attract new and former donors as soon as reasonably possible.

CLUSTER MUNITION SURVEY AND CLEARANCE CAPACITY

MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

- Sudanese National Mine Action Authority (NMAA)
- Sudan National Mine Action Centre (NMAC)

NATIONAL OPERATORS

- CAFA Development Organisation (CAFA)*
- Friends of Peace and Development Organisation (FPDO)
- JASMAR for Human Security (JASMAR)
- Ministry of Defence (MoD)
- National Units for Mine Action and Development (NUMAD)

INTERNATIONAL OPERATORS

- Danish Refugee Council (DRC)
- Humanity & Inclusion**
- Mines Advisory Group (MAG)**
- The HALO Trust (HALO)**

OTHER ACTORS

- Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)
- United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS)

* CAFA is accredited to conduct non-technical survey (NTS), and land release activities, but only conducted explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) in 2025.

** HI, MAG, HALO, and a number of other national and international organisations, were registering and seeking accreditation in 2025, which was granted in 2026.

UNDERSTANDING OF CMR CONTAMINATION

At the end of 2025, the Sudan National Mine Action Centre (NMAC) reported a total of 70,687m² of cluster munition-contaminated area in three states (Blue Nile, South Kordofan, and West Kordofan) across six confirmed hazardous areas (CHAs) and three suspected hazardous areas (SHAs).¹ This is in contrast to the end of 2024, when a total of 33,196m² across four CHAs and SHAs was reported.² NMAC has explained, however, that any differences in contamination data reported in recent years are due to the restoration of previously missing data following the loss of data and access to the database at the start of the conflict in April 2023.³ CMR continued to be concentrated in Blue Nile state, where unexploded submunitions were recorded in five CHAs covering all of the estimated contamination (see Table 1 for details).⁴ This understanding, however, continues to be a partial picture as suspected contamination across all three affected states requires further survey⁵ and the extent of the CHA in South Kordofan has not been quantified.

This is the second year that NMAC has been able to provide CMR contamination data since the end of 2021. Access to data in the mine action database was lost when its offices were ransacked early in the conflict that erupted in April 2023.⁶ Cluster munition-contaminated area reported at the end of 2025 and 2024 is a significant reduction on the partial estimate of 142,400m² reported at the end of 2021.⁷ No cluster munition-contaminated area has been registered or cleared since 2022, but NMAC plans to undertake more survey after the conflict ends and expects to discover further legacy CMR.⁸ Differences in contamination data reported in over the last few years, as mentioned, are due to the gradual restoration of data lost in 2023.⁹

Table 1: Cluster munition-contaminated area by state (at end 2025)¹⁰

State	CHAs	Area (m ²)	SHAs	Area (m ²)	Total SHAs/CHAs	Total area (m ²)
Blue Nile	5	65,071	1	5,614	6	70,685
South Kordofan	1	0	1	1	2	1
West Kordofan	0	0	1	1	1	1
Totals	6	65,071	3	5,616	9	70,687

1 Email from Ahmed Bakri, Operations Associate, NMAC, 1 July 2026.

2 Email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, Director General, NMAC, 24 June 2025.

3 Email from Ahmed Bakri, NMAC, 1 July 2026.

4 Email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026.

5 Email from Abigail Stevens, Associate Programme Officer, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

6 Interview with Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, in Geneva, 30 April 2024; and email from Robert Thompson, Head of Project Unit/Chief of Operations, UNMAS, 4 June 2024.

7 Hatim Khamis Rahama, Technical Adviser, NMAC, 23 June 2022.

8 Hatim Khamis Rahama, NMAC, 23 June 2022; and 2026 Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC) Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 45.

9 Email from Ahmed Bakri, NMAC, 1 July 2026.

10 Ibid.

In the 1990s, Sudanese government forces air-dropped cluster munitions in its armed conflict with the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A). In 2012 and 2015, use of cluster munitions was recorded in five separate attacks on villages in South Kordofan state.¹¹ In April 2017, the African Union-UN Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) reported finding two submunitions in North Darfur (at Al Mengara village in Al Liet locality). Villagers stated that the bombs were dropped in 2008, had been identified by UNAMID at that

time, and that the military had promised to dispose of the items.¹² SAF engineers destroyed the items in February 2018 and no further CMR were reported or identified.¹³

There have been no new reports or allegations of cluster munition use in Sudan since 2015. There is no evidence that Sudan has produced or exported cluster munitions, although it has imported them and possesses stockpiles.¹⁴

OTHER EXPLOSIVE REMNANTS OF WAR AND LANDMINES

Sudan also has a significant problem with anti-personnel (AP) and anti-vehicle (AV) mines, and UXO. Until the recent conflict that erupted in April 2023, this was primarily as a result of more than 20 years of civil war that led to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2005 and South Sudan's independence in July 2011 (see Mine Action Review's *Clearing the Mines* report on Sudan for further information). Over the following years, new conflicts in the disputed area of Abyei, which straddles the border between Sudan and South Sudan, and in Blue Nile and South Kordofan states, have resulted in increased UXO contamination in Sudan.¹⁵

The widespread use of munitions in the conflict since 2023, which has included landmine use, has added dramatically to an estimated 33.9km² of legacy contamination from previous conflicts.¹⁶ This has included widespread use of explosive weaponry, including modern systems such as loitering munitions and drone deployed munitions, in urban populated areas.¹⁷ Newly estimated contamination from the ongoing conflict is projected at 21.3km² (of which 15.5km² was accessible as at March 2026) and in total, Sudan is estimated to contain 55.2km² of EO contamination, with only 36.5% of this (20.5km²) accessible for assessment or operations as at March 2026.¹⁸

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

NMAC is the governmental body that has managed Sudan's mine action programme since 2005, and has functioned as the executive mechanism for the national mine action authority (NMAA) since 2011. Its key responsibilities are overseeing planning, supervision, licensing, and monitoring of all mine action responsibilities.¹⁹ Sudan has national mine action legislation – the 2010 Mine Action Act.²⁰

The United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) was first established in Sudan in 2002, and has since had a key advisory role in building Sudan's humanitarian demining infrastructure. Working with NMAC, UNMAS mobilises funds for the programme and supports land release, risk education, victim assistance, and information management.²¹ UNMAS support to the NMAC also includes aligning activities with humanitarian priorities and donor requirements.²²

The April 2023 conflict resulted in significant institutional changes to NMAC, including the loss of technical and administrative staff, who were killed, detained and displaced, with staff scattered around the country, and its Khartoum offices were looted, as mentioned.²³ UNMAS, which had been based in the same building as NMAC in Khartoum, withdrew its international staff from Sudan in April 2023, and set up an office in Port Sudan in July 2023.²⁴ All operations were suspended.²⁵ By April 2024, NMAC, supported by UNMAS, had re-established its head office in Port Sudan.²⁶ By April 2025, NMAC had another six operational sub-offices—in Kassala, Madani, Khartoum, Damazine, Kadugli and El-Fasher²⁷—and later in the year, NMAC was able to re-establish an office in Khartoum.²⁸

11 See *Cluster Munition Monitor*, "Country Profile: Sudan: Cluster Munition Ban Policy", updated 23 August 2014.

12 Email from Dandan Xu, Associate Programme Management Officer, UNMAS, 12 July 2017.

13 Email from Colin Williams, Deputy Programme Manager, Ordnance Disposal Office, UNAMID, 1 June 2018.

14 *Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor*, "Sudan", updated 20 August 2025, <https://bit.ly/4tZYIMP>.

15 Human Rights Watch, "Under Siege: Indiscriminate Bombing and Abuses in Sudan's Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile States", 6 December 2012; "Unexploded Ordnance Kill 13 People in South Kordofan", *All Africa*, 10 August 2013; and UN, "UNMAS Annual Report 2012", New York, August 2013, p. 10.

16 2026 APMBBC Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 7.

17 Presentation by Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, "Sudan: Emergency response and rapid sector scale-up", at the UN National Directors Meeting (NDM29), Geneva, 23 April 2026; and 2026 APMBBC Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 7.

18 2026 APMBBC Article 5 deadline Extension Request, pp. 5 and 7.

19 Presentation by Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, "Mine Action in Sudan: Challenges and Commitments", at the UN National Directors Meeting & UN Advisers, Geneva, 10 April 2025 (NDM28).

20 Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD), "Transitioning Mine Action Programmes to National Ownership: Sudan", March 2012; and APMBBC Article 7 Report (covering 2019), Form A.

21 UNMAS webpage on Sudan, accessed 8 May 2025, <https://bit.ly/4d1LVNI>.

22 Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

23 2026 APMBBC Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 13; and email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

24 Emails from Robert Thompson, UNMAS, 4 June 2024; and Matt Williams, Senior Programme Officer, UNMAS Sudan, 10 June 2024.

25 Email from Matt Williams, UNMAS Sudan, 10 June 2024.

26 Interview with Khalid Hamdan Adam, Director General, NMAC, in Geneva, 30 April 2024.

27 Email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 30 April 2025.

28 Online interview with Ahmed Bakri, NMAC, 26 March 20206.

Neither NMAC nor UNMAS had access to the mine action database for a year, until April 2024, when access was restored (albeit with the possibility that some data had been lost – for details see the section below, “Information Management and Reporting”).²⁹ Survey and clearance all but ceased in April 2023, except for limited non-technical survey (NTS) conducted by Danish Refugee Council (DRC) in South Kordofan.³⁰ When small-scale clearance resumed in the Omdurman area of Khartoum state in April 2024, the focus was on clearing ERW, but without specific survey or clearance of CMR.³¹ In 2025, with the strengthening of demining capacity (see the section below, “Operators and operational tools”), survey and clearance of landmines and ERW expanded in a number of SAF-controlled locations, but again, with no specific focus on CMR.³²

Clearance operators are consulted through established coordination mechanisms and operational dialogue, though are not involved in formal decision-making processes. Donor and stakeholder requirements are taken into consideration by NMAC within the broader tasking and planning framework, ensuring alignment with national priorities and humanitarian response needs.³³

The operating environment in Sudan remains complex and variable. Administrative procedures, including those related to visas, travel permits, and data collection, continued to require coordination with the relevant authorities in 2025, and hampered efficient mine action operations.³⁴ Similarly, certain technical and regulatory constraints, including those related to the use of global positioning systems (GPS), affected survey, reporting, and planning processes.³⁵ Importation, exemption and custom clearance processes often took months.³⁶ National actors, in particular, reported administrative and logistical challenges, including delays in importation processes, and UNMAS has supported partners through the provision and leasing of equipment to help address gaps, using targeted funding from the UN Central Emergency Relief Fund (CERF).³⁷ The environment for mine action improved in the final months of 2025, however, with the NMAC granting visas and accreditations to additional international non-governmental organisations (NGOs).³⁸

Support for national demining capacity is embedded in the NMAC’s approach, which requires all international demining NGOs working in Sudan to partner with national NGOs, and national personnel conduct survey and clearance.³⁹ NMAC conducted a basic demining course in 2025, increasing the

number of deminers, and in early 2026, UNMAS delivered two training courses on use of the VMR3 detectors (which it provided). As at April 2026, DRC was running an IMAS explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) Level 2 training course for 15 trainees. An IMAS EOD Level 3 course for 10 trainees had been planned for March 2026 in Lebanon but was postponed due to the security situation in the Middle East.⁴⁰

UNMAS continues to support the NMAC, including with information management, on gender mainstreaming, and training on the use of technical equipment (see the sections below on “Information Management and Reporting”, “Gender and Diversity”, and “Operators and Operating Tools”).⁴¹ DRC, with support from UNMAS, invited NMAC personnel to participate in building search training, and developed a new-to-sector standard operating procedure (SOP) for building search, critical in order to address new urban contamination in Sudan safely.⁴²

The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) has provided various capacity-building support to the NMAC, including training, and providing remote support with the implementation of the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA) Core in 2021. GICHD also plans to provide support with elaborating a new national mine action strategy,⁴³ and will conduct a capacity assessment of the NMAC.⁴⁴

Despite increased capacity building efforts, there is still a critical need for further support across the Sudanese mine action sector, including to expand the number of trained personnel. As at May 2026, there were only 17 EOD Level 3-qualified staff in-country. The NMAC needs assistance and basic operational support including with equipment and salaries, as well as quality management training, while national partners need training in EOD, information management, and management, as well as the provision of equipment.⁴⁵

The Mine Action Support Group (MASG) last met in March 2023 in Khartoum. An information sharing meeting was held in February 2026 with Port Sudan-based potential donor countries, convened by the UN Humanitarian Coordinator/Resident Coordinator, which highlighted the needs of the mine action sector.⁴⁶ There is some impetus from different stakeholders to establish a senior level humanitarian demining forum and for a donors meeting, but at the time of writing neither was confirmed.⁴⁷

29 Emails from Robert Thompson, UNMAS, United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission (UNITAMS), 5 and 18 May 2023; and interview (as UNMAS Sudan), in Geneva, 1 May 2024; and email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 14 May 2024.

30 Email from Matt Williams, UNMAS Sudan, 10 June 2024.

31 Email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 30 April 2025.

32 Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026; and Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

33 Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

34 Emails from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026; and Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

35 Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

36 Email from Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

37 Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

38 Email from Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

39 Interview with Simon Elmont, Global Land Release Technical Specialist, in Geneva, 22 April 2026.

40 Email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026.

41 Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

42 Emails from Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026; and Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 9 July 2026.

43 Email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026.

44 Final report: Individualised Approach Sudan’s mine action programme: Overview of remaining challenges and requirements for assistance, December 2025, p.4.

45 Emails from Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May and 8 June 2026.

46 Meeting with the NMAC and UNMAS Sudan, in Geneva, 23 April 2026; and email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 12 June 2026.

47 Meeting with the NMAC and UNMAS Sudan, in Geneva, 23 April 2026.

NMAC plans to develop a resource mobilisation strategy.⁴⁸ In the meantime, it has organised side-events during meetings and conferences to attract donors. In December 2025, on the margins of the Twenty-Second Meeting of States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (APMBC, 22MSP) in Geneva, Sudan held its second Individualised Approach Meeting, where it outlined urgent funding needs to support operational personnel and capacity development for its mine action programme up until 31 March 2029 (the end of

its proposed two-year APMBC Article 5 extension request) with a total core cost of US\$105.75 million.⁴⁹ NMAC has also considered the possibility of seeking funding from private donors, and in 2025 a small amount of explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) was funded in this way.⁵⁰ In addition, UNMAS, through which most funding of EO survey and clearance was channelled in 2025, has held various outreach meetings with donors based throughout the region, including those based in Port Sudan, Nairobi, Egypt, and Ethiopia.⁵¹

FUNDING FOR CMR SURVEY AND CLEARANCE

In 2025, the Government of Sudan contributed US\$850,000 to cover NMAC's costs,⁵² including \$730,000 for land release activities,⁵³ a reduction on the US\$1,425,000 the government contributed to the national mine action programme through NMAC in 2024 (although in its 2026 APMBC Article 5 deadline Extension Request, Sudan reported that it provided US\$1,027,000 to the programme in 2025⁵⁴).⁵⁵ In 2025, NMAC did not contribute national resources to support the cost of survey and clearance of CMR-contaminated areas, and no donor funding was allocated specifically for CMR release.⁵⁶

UNMAS operations in 2025 were funded by the Government of Canada, the European Union Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), the Government of Japan, the US State Department Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement (PM/WRA), the CERF, the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF), the UN Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS), the World Food Programme (WFP), and for in-kind support, the Government of Switzerland.⁵⁷ Of these donors, the Government of Canada, ECHO, and WFP were new donors for UNMAS Sudan. The funding from UNTFHS ended on 31 July 2025. UNMAS Sudan was affected by the United States' decision to cut foreign aid at the beginning of 2025, which led to a fiscal cliff for the programme as of 31 March 2025. Canadian funding, as well as FCDO, ECHO, and CERF funding, enabled the programme to expand, including increasing survey and clearance

operations.⁵⁸ UNMAS funding for 2026 was not confirmed at the time of writing, but included Canada, ECHO, the European Commission's Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI), FCDO, Japan, CERF, WFP, the UN Development Programme (UNDP), and Switzerland (for in-kind support). Of these donors, FPI, and UNDP were new donors for UNMAS Sudan.⁵⁹

DRC was funded by UNOPS (under a commercial contract), the Sudan Humanitarian Fund (SHF), and the Bureau of Humanitarian Affairs (US State Department funding stopped and then restarted during 2025). The US funding was to end in June 2026, but UNOPs and SHF funding will continue during the year.⁶⁰ In addition, the Crisis and Support Centre (CDCS), ECHO, and the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) was funding DRC in 2026, and will also fund The HALO Trust for assessments.⁶¹ The GFFO funding for DRC, HALO, and HI is consortium funding, across three organisations and two countries – Sudan and Ethiopia – and will fund the mine action programmes of DRC, HALO, and HI in Sudan in 2026.⁶²

In 2026, following collective advocacy for bilateral funding for the mine action sector, partners were to receive more bilateral funds directly rather than through UNMAS, including national NGOs who will receive humanitarian pooled funding directly.⁶³

For more information on funding, please see the country profile on Sudan on the *Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor* website.⁶⁴

48 Online interview with Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 12 March 2025; and emails of 30 April 2025 and 19 April 2026.

49 Presentation by NMAC at Sudan's Second Individualised Approach Meeting, APMBC Twenty-Second Meeting of States Parties Meeting, Geneva, 1–5 December 2025.

50 Online interview with Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 12 March 2025; and emails of 30 April 2025 and 19 April 2026.

51 Meeting with the NMAC and UNMAS Sudan, in Geneva, 23 April 2026; and emails from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 12 June and 9 July 2026.

52 Email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026.

53 2026 APMBC Article 7 report (covering 2025), Form F.

54 2026 APMBC Article 5 Extension Request, p. 24.

55 Email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 30 April 2025.

56 Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026; and Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

57 Emails from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May and 9 July 2026.

58 Ibid.

59 Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

60 Emails from Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May and 8 June 2026.

61 Ibid.

62 Interview with Simon Elmont, HI, in Geneva, 22 April 2026; and email from Simon Elmont, HI, 6 July 2026.

63 Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 12 June 2026.

64 <https://the-monitor.org>.

GENDER AND DIVERSITY

A new gender and diversity policy was developed and endorsed in 2021, and gender was mainstreamed in the national mine action strategic plan for 2019–23.⁶⁵ Gender and diversity considerations are also incorporated in the Sudanese Mine Action Standards (SNMAS) for survey, clearance, risk education, and victim assistance. The SNMAS were due to be revised in 2026 and brought in line with the UNMAS Gender, Diversity and Inclusion and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH) Plan of 2025.⁶⁶

Gender is also said to be considered in prioritising, planning, and tasking of survey and clearance, in line with the current SNMAS and new standardised IMSMA forms.⁶⁷ However, in practice the extent to which the needs of women and children in communities affected by EO contamination are taken into account is reported to vary – knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) surveys are not conducted consistently.⁶⁸ Mine action data continue to be disaggregated by sex and age.⁶⁹ In addition, in line with the UNMAS Sudan Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion Plan, sex-, age-, and disability-disaggregated data informs UNMAS planning and sector-wide planning such as the Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan.⁷⁰

NMAC had a dedicated gender focal point in post in 2025, and was planning to employ a total of four gender focal points.⁷¹ All survey and community liaison teams are supposed to be gender balanced, and each clearance team includes two community liaison officers one of whom should be a woman.⁷² UNMAS-implemented community liaison teams are also gender-balanced and activities cover women-only and child-friendly spaces.⁷³ In early 2026, UNMAS produced a guiding document for NMAC's operations team, noting humanitarian priorities and donor obligations regarding

tasking and gender-mainstreaming responsibilities.⁷⁴ DRC, in line with its gender and diversity policy and implementation plan for Sudan, has gender-balanced NTS and EORE teams, and community liaison officers deployed in its multi-task teams (MTTs) are also gender-balanced.⁷⁵

Sudan has confirmed it will be proactive in taking measures to recruit, train, and retain women in operational roles, and various measures resulted in the recruitment of more women deminers in 2025.⁷⁶ As a result of UNMAS's strengthened gender mainstreaming requirements for implementing partners (funded by the Government of Canada), eight women joined the sector in operational roles (as deminers, community liaison officers, and medics) in 2025. Another seven women qualified as deminers after JASMAR ran a basic demining training course in October 2025.⁷⁷ In September 2025, UNMAS facilitated gender and PSEAH training in coordination with the Mine Action Area of Responsibility (MA AoR) co-coordinator, and the women-led national NGO, Nada Al-Azhar Organization, bringing together mine action partners from across the sector. In addition, UNMAS recruited a Gender and PSEAH Advisor, and additional gender-mainstreaming and PSEAH training for UNMAS personnel and mine action partners was scheduled for early 2026. NMAC was represented at gender workshops in Nairobi and Lebanon.⁷⁸

UNMAS launched a gender-responsive emergency risk education initiative in 2024 in response to the conflict,⁷⁹ and continued to prioritise inclusive, gender-responsive, and protection-centred mine action programming in 2025. EORE delivery was adapted to the needs of highly mobile and returnee populations in Khartoum, and included gender-mixed community liaison teams, ensuring the provision of women-only spaces for community consultations.⁸⁰

Table 2: Gender composition of NMAC and operators (at end 2025)⁸¹

NMAC/ Operator	Total staff	Total women staff	Total managerial and supervisory staff	Total women managerial and supervisory staff	Total operational staff	Total women operational staff
CAFA Organisation	3	1 (33%)	1	1 (100%)	1	0 (0%)
DRC	17	8 (47%)	8	3 (38%)	13	5 (38%)
FPDO	57	21(37%)	3	1 (33%)	54	20 (37%)

⁶⁵ Email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 30 April 2025.

⁶⁶ Email from Aimal Safi, Senior Operations and QM Advisor, UNMAS, 27 March 2022; and Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

⁶⁷ Emails from Hatim Khamis Rahama, NMAC, 19 May 2021; and Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026.

⁶⁸ Email from Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

⁶⁹ Emails from Hatim Khamis Rahama, NMAC, 9 April 2020, and Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

⁷⁰ Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

⁷¹ Email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026; and presentation by NMAC at Sudan's Second Individualised Approach Meeting, APMB Twenty-Second Meeting of States Parties, Geneva, 1–5 December 2025.

⁷² Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026; and Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

⁷³ Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

⁷⁴ Ibid.

⁷⁵ Email from Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

⁷⁶ Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

⁷⁷ Ibid.

⁷⁸ Ibid.; and meeting with NMAC and UNMAS, in Geneva, 23 April 2026.

⁷⁹ Email from Mohammad Sediq Rashid, UNMAS Sudan, 17 April 2025.

⁸⁰ Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

⁸¹ Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026; Ahmed Bakri, NMAC, 1 July 2026; Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026; and Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

Table 2 continued

NMAC/ Operator	Total staff	Total women staff	Total managerial and supervisory staff	Total women managerial and supervisory staff	Total operational staff	Total women operational staff
JASMAR	222	42 (19 %)	30	3 (10%)	213	26 (12%)
NMAC	54	17 (31%)	20	5 (25%)	12	4 (33%)
NUMAD	120	23 (19%)	10	3 (30%)	86	19 (22%)
UNMAS	23	7 (30%)	7	2 (29%)	7	1 (14%)
Totals	496	119 (24%)	79	18 (23%)	386	75 (19%)

Notably, nearly half of DRC's staff in Sudan were female in 2025 (an increase from 33% in 2024), including the programme manager. While the percentage of operational staff increased from 25% to 38% over the same period, the percentage of managerial staff decreased from 50% to 38%.⁸²

NMAC has stated that where possible, teams include members from different ethnic and minority groups, supported by targeted recruitment, community engagement with local leaders, and training, to ensure inclusive and culturally appropriate outreach, inclusive community liaison, and consultations, and that the needs of different

communities are reflected in prioritisation and planning based on humanitarian impact and community priorities.⁸³ UNMAS will consider the needs of different ethnic or minority groups in the planning and implementation of its activities when operations re-start outside Khartoum.⁸⁴ DRC's NTS and EORE teams, which operated in South Kordofan in 2025, originate from different local ethnic groups, and were aware of specific local sensitivities. DRC plans to translate some materials into additional minority languages, and has in the past relied on local translators to translate EORE and NTS sessions into local languages.⁸⁵

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND ACTION

Sudan has a policy on environmental management, which details how mine action operators should minimise potential harm from demining.⁸⁶ The SNMAS on environmental management, however, needs to be strengthened to bring it into line with current IMAS requirements and evolving environmental management practices in mine action, and this will be undertaken as part of the comprehensive revision of the SNMAS planned for 2026.⁸⁷ Environmental assessments are not yet systematically conducted to support the planning and conduct of survey and clearance. The introduction of the UNOPS Social and Environmental Safeguarding requirements from 1 October 2026 should address this.⁸⁸ NMAC does, however, now have an environmental focal point.⁸⁹ NMAC and UNMAS said they take account of the environment and climate-related risks when setting priorities and determining the timing of operations, and UNMAS shares information and warnings, where possible, with donors, partners, and the wider humanitarian community to ensure safe, informed operations.⁹⁰

NMAC and UNMAS implement measures to prevent or minimise environmental harm.⁹¹ UNMAS, with UNOPS management support, encourages implementing partners to adopt environmentally responsible practices.⁹² There continues to be a focus on minimising the impact of demolitions on the environment; clearance of waste at sites; and measures to mitigate contamination from spills and any waste.⁹³ NMAC and UNMAS, however, have yet to introduce the enhanced environmental protocols planned in 2025. These were delayed primarily due to competing life-saving operational priorities and the financial constraints faced from February 2025 onwards, and will be revisited when operational conditions and funding levels allow for broader systems development and regulatory enhancement.⁹⁴

82 Email from Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

83 Emails from Hatim Khamis Rahama, NMAC, 19 May 2021 and 19 April 2026.

84 Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

85 Email from Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

86 Email from Hatim Khamis Rahama, NMAC, 31 March 2022.

87 Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

88 Ibid.

89 Emails from Matt Williams, UNMAS Sudan, 28 May 2025; and Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026.

90 Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 30 April 2025 and 19 April 2026; and Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

91 Ibid.

92 Emails from Mohammad Sediq Rashid, UNMAS Sudan, 17 April 2025; and Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 14 July 2025 and 5 May 2026.

93 Ibid.

94 Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 30 April 2025 and 19 April 2026; and Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

Table 3: Environmental policies and action⁹⁵

Operator	Environmental policy in place	Environmental assessments conducted to support survey and clearance	Environmental focal point at country-programme level
DRC	No	No	No
NMAC	Yes	No	Yes
UNMAS	Yes	No	Yes

* DRC has a global SOP on environmental management but not one specific to Sudan.

DRC plans to develop a county-specific environmental management SOP in 2026. It has not yet implemented measures to prevent or minimise environmental harm, but plans are underway to introduce solarisation and other measures.⁹⁶

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

Neither NMAC nor UNMAS had access to the mine action database following the ransacking of their offices (co-located in Khartoum) between April 2023 and April 2024, as mentioned above. NMAC, the GICHD (which hosts NMAC's data), and UNMAS have worked together to retrieve the data.⁹⁷ As at April 2026, the NMAC reported that approximately 95% of all data had been retrieved.⁹⁸

UNMAS and NMAC started building the IMSMA Core system in 2025, and planned to continue this in 2026. Migration of data to IMSMA Core, which was ongoing before the outbreak of the conflict, has now resumed following discussions between the GICHD, NMAC, and UNMAS on the use of IMSMA Core. As at June 2026, UNMAS was working with the NMAC to migrate the recovered data from the older system into

the new system which was under development on the GICHD provided cloud platform. Implementation timelines for the transfer of legacy data and data quality assurance processes are yet to be confirmed, as are the timelines and modalities for access.⁹⁹ Currently operators can provide inputs to the system but outputs are not visible.¹⁰⁰

Efforts to strengthen the quality and management of data in the mine action database are ongoing.¹⁰¹ New reporting templates for land release operations and data workflows drafted by UNMAS in 2024 to improve data validation were implemented in 2025, strengthening data flow and enhancing quality.¹⁰² Data collection forms are reported to be consistent and enable collection of the necessary data, but are only in English, which limits their use by community liaison teams.¹⁰³

PLANNING AND TASKING

A new mine action strategy, which NMAC had expected to finalise by the end of 2025 with support from the GICHD,¹⁰⁴ was postponed until the end of 2026 with the GICHD due to visit Sudan in October 2026.¹⁰⁵ The previous delayed national mine action strategic plan for 2019–23, which was due to be issued in February 2023,¹⁰⁶ was never formally approved as a result of conflict,¹⁰⁷ although a final version of the strategy was shared with stakeholders.¹⁰⁸ Immediately prior to the recent conflict, Sudan had been working towards a two-phase work plan, providing annual land release targets for all explosive ordnance to 2027.¹⁰⁹

NMAC and its partners implemented an emergency work plan in 2025 that prioritised clearing institutions and service facilities in war-affected areas, particularly those with a high rate of voluntary return.¹¹⁰ The situation has remained dynamic, affecting access, and shifting the focus towards humanitarian needs.¹¹¹ Given the scale of EO contamination, including in urban areas, and the number of people returning to their homes in government-controlled areas, there is still an emphasis on EORE.¹¹²

95 Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026; Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026; and Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

96 Email from Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

97 Emails from Robert Thompson, UNMAS, 5 and 18 May 2023; and interview in Geneva, 1 May 2024; and emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 14 May 2024 and 19 April 2026; Mohammad Sediq Rashid, UNMAS Sudan, 17 April 2025; and Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

98 Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026; and Ahmed Bakri, NMAC, 1 July 2026.

99 Ibid., and emails from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May, 12 June, and 9 July 2026.

100 Email from Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

101 Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

102 Email from Mohammad Sediq Rashid, UNMAS Sudan, 17 April 2025; and Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026.

103 Emails from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026; and Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

104 Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 13 June 2023 and 30 April 2025.

105 Email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026.

106 2022 Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 19.

107 Email from Matt Williams, UNMAS Sudan, 10 June 2024.

108 Email from UNMAS Headquarters, 24 July 2023.

109 Revised Article 5 deadline Extension Request, August 2022, pp. 48–58.

110 Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 30 April 2025; and Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

111 Presentation by NMAC at Sudan's Second Individualised Approach Meeting, APMBC Twenty-Second Meeting of States Parties, Geneva, 1–5 December 2025.

112 Presentation by Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, "Sudan: Emergency response and rapid sector scale-up", at NDM29.

NMAC continues to operate a hotline, established in 2024, responding to reports of UXO.¹¹³ In parallel, NMAC is understood to maintain and update its own operational planning framework for survey and clearance of CMR-contaminated and AP mined areas, aligned with national priorities and developing operational conditions.¹¹⁴

Planning was beginning in early 2026 for Sudan's new mine action strategy, which will align with Sudan's proposed two-year extension to its 2026 APMBC Article 5 deadline, which addresses all EO contamination including CMR. Given that the ongoing conflict has fundamentally altered the EO landscape across the country and disrupted mine action operations, Sudan is requesting a two-year extension to re-establish operational capacity and develop a credible evidence-based plan for completion.¹¹⁵

Sudan had elaborated a two-phase work plan. Phase 1 (April 2026–March 2027), which runs until the current APMBC Article 5 deadline (1 April 2027), is a continuation of current activities focused on emergency response and sector-wide capacity development. It includes expanding the number of trained personnel, importing equipment, rewriting the SNMAS, and developing procedures and policies fit for the new contamination context.¹¹⁶ In June 2026, NMAC indicated

that it had adjusted the phasing of the proposed plan, with Phase 1 to run from 2027 until 2028, and Phase 2 to run from 2028 until 2029.¹¹⁷

Under Phase 2 of the work plan Sudan has said it will prioritise evidence-based survey and land release to define the extent of mine and ERW contamination and reduce risks to communities in safe and accessible areas. There will be a focus on NTS, TS, clearance, and EORE, as well as on victim assistance and on support for humanitarian access and the safe return of internally displaced persons (IDPs).¹¹⁸ In addition, Sudan will conduct re-survey and clearance of legacy contamination in safe and accessible areas of Blue Nile, West Kordofan, and South Kordofan States (where legacy CMR contamination is reported), to validate historical records and address residual risks. Key targets include addressing 5.1km² of legacy and 15.5km² of newly identified EO contamination, alongside NTS of 8,632 suspected hazardous locations covering 21.6km².¹¹⁹

In 2025, priorities were reported to be determined according to community, stakeholder, and government needs.¹²⁰ NMAC remains the sole decision-making for tasking and determining criteria for prioritisation of tasks.¹²¹

LAND RELEASE SYSTEM

STANDARDS AND LAND RELEASE EFFICIENCY

A comprehensive programme-level review of national standards initiated in 2025 will be undertaken in a staged manner in 2026. This is to allow for structured engagement and progressive updating of the SNMAS and SOPs to address emerging operational challenges and ensure alignment with international best practices.¹²²

The SNMAS and SOPs are generally reviewed according to the needs of the operation.¹²³ No formal revisions to the SNMAS or SOPs relating specifically to CMR were made in 2025, and no operator consultation on updated standards took place beyond initial preparatory discussions linked to the planned review process.¹²⁴ Sudan's NMACs have been partially adapted to the local context and operational needs, with updates applied in priority areas such as building clearance to support the urgent humanitarian response.¹²⁵ This included adding Chapter 05.05 on Building Clearance

to the SNMAS in May 2025.¹²⁶ The SNMAS section on team composition was also amended to introduce "risk education+" and "NTS+" teams with the aim was of enhancing operational flexibility by allowing teams to perform dual functions (risk education and NTS, or NTS and EOD, respectively) based on the operational context and nature of contamination.¹²⁷

In early 2025, an adjustment was made to the SOP on team composition because of a lack of EOD Level 3 qualified personnel. This involved merging two multi-task teams each with an EOD Level 2 team leader under the supervision of a single EOD Level 3 team supervisor. While this increases the number of deminers on the ground, it reduces operational flexibility by allocating a large number of deminers to one area, thereby weakening the ability to react quickly to priority tasks.¹²⁸

113 Emails from Matt Williams, UNMAS Sudan, 10 June 2024; and Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 30 April 2025.

114 Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

115 2026 APMBC Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 38.

116 Ibid., p. 40.

117 NMAC Presentation, "Extension Request June 2026", APMBC Intersessional Meetings, Geneva, 15–18 June 2026.

118 2026 APMBC Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 41.

119 Ibid., p. 42.

120 Email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026.

121 Email from Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

122 Emails from Mohammad Sediq Rashid, UNMAS Sudan, 17 April 2025; Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026; and Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

123 Email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026.

124 Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026.

125 Ibid.

126 Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 14 July 2025.

127 Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 30 April 2025; and Matt Williams, UNMAS Sudan, 28 May 2025.

128 Email from Mohammad Sediq Rashid, UNMAS Sudan, 17 April 2025.

OPERATORS AND OPERATIONAL TOOLS

An increase in funding, training, and sustained access in some areas resulted in a significant increase in operational staff in 2025.¹²⁹ By the end of the year there were 22 NTS teams with 88 personnel, an increase from a total of five teams in 2024 (when one NTS team of three was deployed for 10 months, and another four NTS teams with a total of twelve personnel were deployed in January 2025 only¹³⁰).¹³¹ Though no clearance personnel were allocated to survey and clearance of CMR tasks in 2025—all teams are MTTs—the number of deminers increased to 112 across 26 teams in 2025 (up from five teams with a total of 32 technical survey (TS) and clearance personnel in 2024¹³²).¹³³

Table 4: NTS survey capacities deployed in 2025^{*134}

Operator	NTS teams	NTS personnel
CAFA**	1	4
DRC	1	4
FPDO	6	24
JASMAR	4	16
MoD	1	4
NUMAD	9	36
Totals	22	88

* NTS personnel conduct NTS integrated with EORE. ** CAFA did not conduct NTS in 2025.

Table 5: Operational TS and clearance capacities deployed in 2025¹³⁵

Operator	Manual teams	Total deminers	Mechanical assets
DRC/JASMAR	4	16	0
DRC/JASMAR/UNOPS	3	12	0
DRC/NUMAD	4	16	0
JASMAR	11	52	0
NUMAD	4	16	0
Totals	26	112	0

A further expansion in demining staff is expected in 2026 as the programme attracts further funding and new operators begin survey and clearance operations.¹³⁶ NMAC has encouraged the return of international NGOs and supported their accreditation and the forging of partnerships with national NGOs. Humanity & Inclusion (HI) was accredited to work in Sudan in December 2025, The HALO Trust (HALO) was accredited in April 2026, and Mines Advisory Group (MAG) was accredited in May 2026.¹³⁷ HALO was due to conduct a baseline EO impact assessment in Khartoum from April 2026 until the summer.¹³⁸ As at April 2026, HI, which already had a health access project in Al Jazeera, was due to open an office in Khartoum.¹³⁹ Two teams from commercial contractor SafeLane Global, were accredited by April 2026 and deployed the same month.¹⁴⁰

As regards innovation, UNMAS introduced a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) detection capability in 2025 to respond to minimum metal mines found in Khartoum minefields. This has primarily been applied to AV minefield clearance. In early 2026, UNMAS deployed a technical expert to strengthen this capacity both operationally and from a quality assurance perspective.¹⁴¹ This equipment is being incorporated into the NMAS.¹⁴²

129 Presentation by Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, "Sudan: Emergency response and rapid sector scale-up", at NDM29, Geneva, 23 April 2026; and email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026.

130 Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 30 April 2025; Ra'ed Salameh, Operations Manager, DRC, 27 March 2025; and Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 29 May 2025.

131 Email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026; and Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

132 Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 30 April 2025, and 19 April 2026; and Ra'ed Salameh, DRC, 27 March 2025.

133 Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026; Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026; and Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May and 29 June 2026.

134 Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026; Ahmed Bakri, NMAC, 1 July 2026; and Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

135 Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026; Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May 2026; and Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May and 29 June 2026.

136 Email from Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

137 Email from Ahmed Bakri, NMAC, 1 July 2026.

138 Ollie Thomson, Programme Manager, HALO Sudan, 16 March 2026.

139 Interview with Simon Elmont, HI, in Geneva, 22 April 2026.

140 Online interview with Ahmed Bakri, NMAC, 26 March 2026; and email from Ahmed Bakri, NMAC, 1 July 2026.

141 Emails from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 5 May and 9 July 2026.

142 Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026.

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS AND PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLETION

LAND RELEASE OUTPUTS IN 2025

In 2025, no CMR survey or clearance took place, as was similarly the case in 2024.¹⁴³

SURVEY IN 2025

In 2025, as in 2024, no hazardous area was reported as released through NTS or TS.¹⁴⁴

CLEARANCE IN 2025

No clearance of CMR was reported for 2025, or 2024,¹⁴⁵ although some battle area clearance (BAC) was conducted in both years.¹⁴⁶

DEMINER SAFETY

No demining staff were killed or injured in demining operations in 2025, and there were no attacks on survey and clearance personnel. The conflict did, however, affect operations. In mid-2025, for example, survey and clearance teams had to pause operations during fire attacks in Khartoum. The security situation improved but there was a subsequent threat from drones, which again caused the teams to pause operations.¹⁴⁷ DRC's NTS team in South Kordofan had to transfer to Khartoum at the end of 2025 due to operational risks in South Kordofan, including frequent drone strikes and access impediments.¹⁴⁸ RSF control in some states is reported to obstruct mine action activities.¹⁴⁹

PROGRESS TOWARDS COMPLETION

Sudan is not a State Party to the CCM and therefore does not have a specific clearance deadline under Article 4. Nonetheless, it has obligations under international human rights law to clear CMR as soon as possible. In March 2022, NMAC stated that there had been no developments with regard to Sudan's accession to the CCM,¹⁵⁰ and the outbreak of conflict in April 2023 will likely have delayed progress towards becoming a State Party.

The conflict has also delayed completion of CMR clearance. Limited funding, access constraints, equipment losses, challenges to obtaining serviceable explosives, and the reprioritisation of resources towards urgent life-saving emergency tasks, have significantly restricted systematic survey and clearance, and any work to address legacy contamination, including CMR.¹⁵¹ More generally, the scale and complexity of EO contamination in Sudan is unprecedented with urban centres heavily affected and requiring specialised expertise, equipment, and procedures that are new to Sudan's existing national mine

action operators.¹⁵² Survey and clearance of EO expanded in 2025, but was only undertaken in SAF-controlled areas, and the scale of need continued to outstrip resources.¹⁵³ There was no survey and clearance of CMR in 2025, with the focus on clearing new EO contamination, including new AP mine contamination in Khartoum, with other EO survey and clearance conducted in Al Jazeera, Blue Nile, Red Sea, Sennar, White Nile, North Kordofan, and South Kordofan.¹⁵⁴

Sudan has acknowledged that volatility from its protracted conflict has undermined its ability to systematically address areas known or suspected to be cluster munition-contaminated in South Kordofan, West Kordofan, and Blue Nile states.¹⁵⁵ Its developing plan to address EO contamination including CMR, may be a positive step, but the overall scale of the challenge is vast, and conflict, lack of funding, and insufficient institutional, human resource, and material capacity could easily derail its plans.¹⁵⁶

PLANNING FOR MANAGEMENT OF RESIDUAL CONTAMINATION

Sudan previously had a plan in place to deal with residual risk and liability post-completion,¹⁵⁷ and had planned that ultimately Sudan would establish a national capacity within the military or police.¹⁵⁸ Sudan continues to strengthen its national capacity through NMAC's requirement that international NGOs work with national NGOs.

143 Interviews with Mohammad Sediq Rashid, UNMAS, in Geneva, 29 April 2024; and Robert Thompson, UNMAS, in Geneva, 1 May 2024; and emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 30 April 2025 and 19 April 2026; and Mohammad Sediq Rashid, UNMAS Sudan, 17 April 2025.

144 Interviews with Mohammad Sediq Rashid, UNMAS, in Geneva, 29 April 2024; and Robert Thompson, UNMAS, in Geneva, 1 May 2024; and emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 30 April 2025 and 19 April 2026.

145 Ibid.

146 Emails from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 30 April, 24 June 2025, and 19 April 2026.

147 Email from Abigail Stevens, UNMAS Sudan, 9 July 2026.

148 Email from Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

149 Email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026.

150 Email from Hatim Khamis Rahama, NMAC, 31 March 2022.

151 Presentation by NMAC at Sudan's Second Individualised Approach Meeting, APMBC Twenty-Second Meeting of States Parties Meeting, Geneva, 1-5 December 2025; and email from Katherine Santi Nelson, DRC, 21 May 2026.

152 2026 APMBC Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 37.

153 Presentation by Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, "Sudan: Emergency response and rapid sector scale-up", at NDM29, Geneva, 23 April 2026.

154 Email from Khalid Hamdan Adam, NMAC, 19 April 2026.

155 2026 APMBC Article 5 deadline Extension Request, p. 46.

156 Ibid., pp. 45-48.

157 Email from Hatim Khamis Rahama, NMAC, 9 April 2020.

158 Email from Hatim Khamis Rahama, NMAC, 19 May 2021.